

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

DATE: September 6, 1979

SUBJECT: Water Supply Input to Hazardous Waste Executive Committee on Nick LiPari and L E Carpenter Landfills

FROM: Melvin Hauptman
Water Supply Branch

TO: John Frisco
Solid Waste Branch

This is in response to the Committee's meeting of September 4, 1979.

Nick LiPari

The lifetime level for bis (2-chloroethyl) ether is 0.4 ppb according to the NAS and 0.8 ppb according to EPA's office of drinking water - not 1 ppm as was discussed in the meeting (see attachment).

Chestnut Branch and Rabbit Run are two streams which intercept the contaminant plume according to Wayne Saunders of DEP (map attached). He doubts that the contaminants will turn up later in the private wells as these wells tap the lower aquifer which is separated from the upper one by a clay layer.

Alcyon Lake is officially closed to fishing and swimming but some fishing is still done according to Mr. Saunder's contact with Gloucester County officials.

L E Carpenter

See attached fact sheet dated July 16, 1979. The levels of xylene in Wharton's well #3 are much lower than the recommended level.

Attachments

*presented at HWEEC
9/18/79*



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

DATE: July 16, 1979

SUBJECT: Fact Sheet on Contaminated Well in Wharton, N.J.

FROM: Jaime A. Referente
Sanitary Engineer, WSB

THRU: ~~yy~~ Harry F. Smith Jr.
Chief, Water Supply Branch

TO: Jeffrey Zelikson
Deputy Director
Water Division

Attached for your information is a fact sheet on the above subject matter.

FACT SHEET ON CONTAMINATED WELL
IN WHARTON, N.J.

BACKGROUND

- On May 3, 1979 Wharton Water Department collected samples from their well #3 which is 3/4 of a mile downstream of a chemical dump.
- Results of the organic analysis were done by Century Environmental Testing Laboratory and show traces of the chemical toxin xylene with levels of 100 ppb.
- Borough officials decided to close the well and contacted NJ Department of Environmental Protection for assistance.

HEALTH EFFECTS

EPA recommended levels for xylene - 530 ppb on a short term, approximately one month. No data available for long term contacts.

AREA AFFECTED (See Attached Map)

- Wharton Water Department serves a population of 6,000. Its source of supply consists of three wells with a total capacity of 1.6 MGD.

SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION

- A chemical dump on the property owned by L.E. Carpenter, a manufacturer of vinyl wall coverings is the suspected source of pollution because of its close proximity (3/4 of a mile upstream of well #3).

ACTION TAKEN

- On May 7, 1979 NJDEP collected samples from well #3 of Wharton Water Department and well #1 of Dover Water Department as both draw water from the same aquifer.
- Results of the analysis for both wells which was done by the state show levels of less than 25 ppb xylene.
- On May 17, 1979 NJDEP returned and collected samples on all three wells of Wharton Water Department including two wells in Dover which is near the river.
- Results for all wells show levels of less than 25 ppb xylene.

- On May 21, 1979 Century Environmental Testing Lab. collected samples from the three wells in Wharton. Results on three wells show levels of less than 2 ppb xylene.
- According to the NJ Bureau of Potable Water, well #3 in Wharton is now being used and they feel that the original analyses by Century were probably erroneous.

EPA ROLE

To provide technical assistance and to act in an oversight capacity to assure the problem is being handled properly.